

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGUI 02481 231002Z
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 /067 W

----- 104177 /12

R 230741Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY BANGUI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8081
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, CT
SUBJECT: IMPERIAL CABINET ALSO ANNOUNCED

REF: BANGUI 2421; A-85

1. EMPEROR BOKASSA HAS ANNOUNCED THE CREATION OF AN IMPERIAL COURT IN ADDITION TO THE CABINET OF PRIME MINISTER PATASSE ANNOUNCED LAST WEEK (REFTEL). HEADED BY FORMER MINISTER OF STATE BANGUE-TANDET, THE IMPERIAL COURT INCLUDES MOSTLY MINISTERS WITHOUT PORTFOLIO OR THOSE DESIGNATED AS RESPONSIBLE "FOR MISSIONS". FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER FRANCK IS ONE OF THE NEW COURTIER.

2. WITH THE RECAUTION OF THIS NEW BODY, ALL OF THE PRE-IMPERIAL MINISTERS OR SECRETARIES OF STATE HAVE FOUND POSITIONS. MOST OF THOSE WHO DID NOT FIGURE IN PATASSE'S CABINET HAVE SURFACED IN THE IMPERIAL COURT, ALTHOUGH SOMETIMES WITH A CHANGE IN RANK. IN ADDITION AS REPORTED A-85, FOUR HAVE BEEN GIVEN CHARGE OF GOVERNMENTAL COUNCILS OR ORGANIZATIONS AND TWO RETAIN THEIR OLD FUNCTIONS BUT WITH THE TITLE OF HIGH COMMISSIONER RATHER THAN MINISTER.

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3. WE ARE NOT AT ALL SURE HOW THE NEW ARRANGEMENT WILL FUNCTION, I.E. WHERE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE GOVERNMENT WILL END AND THAT OF THE IMPERIAL CABINET WILL BEGIN. IN PERSONALITY TERMS AT LEAST THE NEW GOVERNMENTAL STRUCTURE IS SIMPLY THE OLD ONE RESHUFFLED FOR IMPERIAL NEEDS.

4. LIST OF IMPERIAL COURT TRANSMITTED BY AIRGRAM.
QUAINTON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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